WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1.   A method of disrupting illegal copying of a copyrighted work over the internet comprising the steps of:

storing a characteristic of a copyrighted work to be protected in a first database,

5   searching the internet for the presence of said characteristic in a stored work in computer linked to the internet,

downloading by at least one agent computer said stored work from said computer linked to the internet,

verifying that said stored work is a copy of said copyrighted work, and

10   scheduling multiple downloads by said at least one agent computer of said stored work from said internet site.

2.   The method of claim 1 further comprising the steps of,

logging into a second database the location of the internet protocol address of said stored work and the time and the date when said stored work was downloaded by said at least

15   one agent computer, and

storing said downloaded stored work from said internet site into said second database.

3.   The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of,

frequently changing the internet protocol address of said at least one agent computer.

4.   A method of disrupting illegal copying of a copyrighted work over the internet

20   comprising the steps of,

creating a decoy file of a copyrighted work to be protected,

storing said decoy file in at least one decoy computer,

registering a plurality of internet protocol addresses of said decoy file of said at least one decoy computer on a file sharing system as a host to provide said copyrighted work for

25   downloading, and

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returning an indicator that said copyrighted work is not available for transfer from said decoy computer when a request for transfer of a copyrighted work is requested.

5.   Apparatus for disrupting illegal copying of a copyrighted work over the internet comprising,

        a first database for storing a characteristic of a copyrighted work to be protected,

        a search engine linked to said first database for searching computers linked to the internet for the presence of an internet site with a stored work having said characteristic said copyrighted work,

        at least one agent computer for downloading said stored work from said internet site, comparing said stored work to said copyrighted work to determine if said stored work is a copy, and

        a scheduler linked to said at least one agent computer for directing said at least one agent computer to download said stored work from said internet site.

6.   The apparatus of claim 5 further comprising,

        a second database for storing information about said internet site.

7.   The apparatus of claim 5 further comprising,

        at least one decoy computer having a decoy file of said copyrighted work, said one decoy file location registered with a file sharing system as having said copyrighted work available for downloading.

8.   The apparatus of claim 5 wherein said at least one agent computer is adapted to change its internet protocol address frequently.